REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-5 have been amended. Claim 6 has been canceled. Claim 7 remains in this application. Claim 8 has been canceled. Claim 9 has been added as new.

The examiner has acknowledged that claims 1-5 have now been amended to correct editorial errors and clear up any matters of form. Claims 6 and 8 have been canceled as being drawn to an embodiment no longer of interest to applicant. Claims 7 and 9 are directed to allowable subject matter.

Claim 1 has been amended for the following reasons:
To clear up any matters of form.

Claim 2 has been amended for the following reasons:
To clear up any matters of form.

Claim 3 has been amended for the following reasons:
To clear up any matters of form.

Claim 4 has been amended for the following reasons:
To clear up any matters of form.
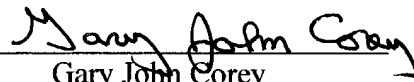
Claim 5 has been amended for the following reasons:
To clear up any matters of form.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned **"Version with markings to show changes made."**

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

INVENTOR

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Specification:

A new section entitled "BRIEF DESCRIPTIONS OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWINGS " has been added after the first paragraph on page 4, as indicated in the clean copy and shown below.

BRIEF DESCRIPTIONS OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWINGS

The patent or application file contains at least one drawing executed in color. Copies of this patent or patent application publication with color drawing(s) will be provided by the Office upon request and payment of the necessary fee.

FIG 1. is the operator interface screen that users use to enter in the tool size and offsets.

FIG 2. individually labels the various dimensions used in the calculations of Multiple-axis Tool Compensation.

FIG 3. isolates one of the key pivot points used in the calculation.

FIG 4. shows a side view to further depict the angular dimension used in the calculation.

FIG 5. isolates the dimension that depicts the included angle of the tool tip when a ball nose cutter is used.

FIG 6. shows a full isometric 3D view of the multiple axis head and further points out another key dimension used in the calculation.

FIG 7. is an isometric view of a CNC machine tool using a multi-axes cutting tool mounted in a tool holder cutting a conceptual part.

FIG 8. is a side view of a CNC machine tool using a multi-axes cutting tool mounted in a tool holder cutting a conceptual part.

FIG 9. is a multi-axes G Code program, commonly used in CNC machining, listing the non-compensated axis positions as X,Y,Z,A,B coordinates. These coordinates are read into the system to provide a list of positions to drive the tool to and a tool number listed as "T" to provide a means to look up the user-inserted desired tool size values, as shown in FIG 1., to be used in calculating the compensation amounts.

The entire content of the section entitled "DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION" starting on page 4 and ending on page 5 has been deleted from the application.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

~~001 Multi-Axes Tool Compensation at the CNC controller provides CNC machinists using CNC Controllers a convenient method for applying 3D and 5-axis tool compensation in real time as they enjoy now when using the traditional 2D tool comp standards G41 and G42. Up until now CNC controllers have not been technically advanced enough to employ multi-axes tool compensation methods. Using these defined methods of my invention for multi-axes tool compensation, the machine operator now has a pre-defined method to assign 3D and 5-axis tool characteristics at the CNC controller. CNC programmers now have the tools to issue 3D and 5-axis tool comp commands, which have not been available in traditional CNC controllers. The CNC machine operator does not require the assistance of the CNC programmer to re-create a brand new CNC G code Program with new tool information and definitions when a change is made. My invention allows the CNC machine operator to define the new tools using complex 3D and 5-axis tool compensation algorithms built into the CNC controller. These algorithms also provide for automatic tool gouge avoidance protection.~~

~~002 Description of the Command Usage for Multi-axes Tool Compensation~~

~~0021 The TOOLCOMP command enables 3D and 5-axis tool compensation and has eight possible parameters: OFF, LEFT, RIGHT, 3DCOMP, 3DADJUSTZ, 3DOFFSET, 5AXIS and LLIMIT45. These parameters are usually associated with G40, G41, G42, G130, G131, G132 and G135. The compensation value is taken from the tool parameter screen for that specific tool number.~~

~~0022 All tool compensation is preprocessed when the file is loaded into memory. If a tool size is changed or the user edits the G code program to reflect a change in tool comp methods, then the program will automatically reprocess and redraw the G code program. If 3D or 5-axis tool comp is used, the CAD/CAM system will need to include~~

the special codes on each G code line that will need to be compensated. The special codes represent a normalized 3D vector and the L code represents a conical angle measured from the XYZ point to the nearest obstacle from a flat 2D plane. If the user specifies an angle after LLIMIT, then the tool position may be completely omitted in order to automatically avoid gouging. This occurs if the included angle between the vector and the L code is less than the value specified after LLIMIT. The default of LLIMIT is 45 degrees. To turn gouge protection off, specify a zero value after LLIMIT 0. Take caution if the tool size is increased at the control, which is larger than the original. An obstacle may exist beyond the diameter of the original tool size that may result in an unforeseen gouge. If the tool size is decreased from the original size, then there may be some extra stock left in tight corners since possible gouges were originally figured for a larger tool.

EXAMPLES:

```
TOOLCOMP OFF          'Turns all compensation off.
TOOLCOMP LEFT         'Comps in 2D to the left.
TOOLCOMP RIGHT        'Comps in 2D to the right.
TOOLCOMP 3DCOMP       '3D comp based on vector and gouge parameter.
TOOLCOMP 3DADJUSTZ    '3D comp lifts Z axis only but keeps X,Y.
TOOLCOMP 3DOFFSET     '3D parallel offset only - based on vector and no
                      'gouge parameter.
TOOLCOMP 5AXIS        '5 axis comp based on vector and gouge parameter.
TOOLCOMP LLIMIT45     'Give angle which will specify a gouge to omit tool
                      'position.
```

The entire content of the section entitled "DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION" starting on page 4 and ending on page 5 has been replaced with new rewritten content, paragraph Nos. [0001] through [0030], as indicated in the clean copy and shown below.

[0001]   FIG 1. illustrates an operator screen where the machine operator enters the Multi-Axes Tool Compensation values. The user first starts out by entering the tool size as shown on FIG 1. in the box labeled "Size". This describes the tool diameter that will be used by the internal algorithm to compensate or adjust for this size tool when cutting a part on a multi-axes machine. On FIG 1. the box labeled "Horz" is used by the machine operator to enter the horizontal offset value that will be used to compensate for the tool location horizontally. On FIG 1. the box labeled "Vert" is used by the machine operator to enter the vertical offset value that will be used to compensate for the tool location vertically. On FIG 1. the box labeled "Height" is used by the machine operator to enter the height offset value that will be used to compensate for the tool location in regards to the tallest or length of the tool. On FIG 1. the box labeled "Wear" describes the wear amount to be deducted from the tool diameter when the tool begins to wear out so that the true tool diameter can always be compensated. On FIG 1. the boxes labeled "Custom1 and Custom2" are reserved for future user-defined values. On FIG 1. the box labeled "Corner radius" is used to enter a value by the machine operator that would be used by the internal algorithm to compensate or adjust for the radius on the end of the tool as shown in FIG 2. item (1). On FIG 1. the box labeled "Bottom angle" is used to enter a value by the machine operator that would be used by the internal algorithm to compensate or adjust for the angle on the bottom of the tool as shown in FIG 5. Dim "E" item (7). On FIG 1. the box labeled "Side angle" is used to enter a value by the machine operator that would be used by the internal algorithm to compensate or adjust for the side angle on the side of the tool. On FIG 1. the box labeled "Length" is used to enter a value by the machine operator that would be used by the internal algorithm to compensate or adjust for the actual length of the tool itself as shown in FIG 2. Dim "C" item (4). On FIG 1. the box labeled "Type" is the type or kind of tool style. The values to be entered vary from machine type to machine type and actually only provide a reference number to the machine operator as to which type of tools he uses for that particular machine type.

[0002] For instance:

Type 0=Flat Ended Mill
     1=Drill Mill or Lathe
     2=Diamond Insert Lathe
     3=Ball Nose Mill
     4=Custom
     5=Circle Insert Lathe
     6=Triangle Insert Lathe
     7=Groove or Part Off Tool Lathe

[0003] Whereas to further describe the values to enter on FIG 1.:

Corner radius: Is the corner radius of the tool 1/2=ball nose, <= Bull nose cutter.
Bottom angle: Is the angle measured from the center tip out. Typically 28 for a drill.
Side angle: Is the angle measured on the cutter's side, like a draft angle or taper.
Length: The overall tool length.

Corner radius same as Param1
Bottom angle same as Param2
Side angle same as Param3
Length same as Param4

2=Diamond Insert Lathe
Param1 = Nose radius (Default=.03)
Param2 = Included angle of insert (Default=80)
Param3 = Mounting angle (Default=45)
Param4 = Length (Default will size to part)

5=Circle Insert Lathe
Param1 = Circle radius (Default=.03)
Param2 = Not used
Param3 = Not used
Param4 = Not used

6=Triangle Insert Lathe
Param1 = Nose radius (Default=.03)
Param2 = Mounting angle (Default=0)
Param3 = Not used
Param4 = Insert size (Default will size to part)

7=Groove or Part Off Tool Lathe
Param1 = Corner nose radius (Default=.03)
Param2 = Width (Default=.06)
Param3 = Not used
Param4 = Length (Default=2)

[0004] For a Lathe the settings mean:

SIZE: Tool nose radius
HORZ: The amount and direction of the Z offset from the tool radius center to the cutting edge.
VERT: The amount and direction of the X offset from the tool radius center to the cutting edge.
HEIGHT: Not Used
WEAR: The amount to add or subtract from the Tool Nose Radius caused by tool wear.

[0005] For non-lathe 3 or more axis single head or spindled machines the settings mean:

SIZE: Tool Diameter
HORZ: Not used
VERT: Not used
HEIGHT: Tool length offset. The amount and direction to offset the Z axis.
WEAR: The amount to add or subtract from the tool diameter caused by tool wear.

[0006] For a non-lathe 2 axis machine the settings mean (Waterjet, Laser, Plasma, EDM):

SIZE: Kerf or Tool Diameter.
HORZ: Not used
VERT: Not used
HEIGHT: Not used
WEAR: The amount to add or subtract from the tool diameter caused by tool wear.

[0007] For a non-lathe Multi-head or spindled machine.

SIZE: Tool Diameter.
HORZ: The amount or distance and direction of offset on each head in the X axis from the main head.
VERT: The amount or distance and direction of offset on each head in the Y axis from the main head.
HEIGHT: Tool length offset. The amount and direction to offset the Z axis.
WEAR: The amount to add or subtract from the tool diameter caused by tool wear.

[0008] On FIG 1. the group of boxes under the section MACHINE OFFSETS is described as follows:

[0009]   Whenever you zero out the machine's home position, these are the values the machine thinks it is at. Generally, you would home the machine at zero for all axes. Ignore the values for axes you do not have.

[0010]   The values entered on FIG 1. are stored in the memory of the CNC Controller to be used in the calculations as variables.

[0011]   On FIG 1. the group of boxes under the section FIXTURE OFFSETS is described as follows:

[0012]   These are values for all 6 axes. Ignore the values for axes you do not have. These OFFSETs are only added when an OFFSET logic command is issued generally with G54 through G59 codes. The offset values entered for each axis will be added to the current position of the tool together with all other invoked offsets. These are typical G codes, as known by industry standards, which refer to machine offsets.

[0013]   On FIG 1. the group of boxes under the section OPTIONAL SETTINGS is described as follows:

[0014]   This is an array of miscellaneous settings that do not directly relate to features needed for multiple-axes tool comp. They are presented here to fully disclose how multiple-axes tool comp interacts with the various other operator settings and choices.

DRY RUN is used to switch on or off a mode in which the Z axis, Spindle and Feed mode will be disabled or not. Commonly used in test runs.

BITMAP G CODE DISPLAY will refresh the GCODE window whenever another window pops up over it.

GRAPHICS: SOLID VS WIREFRAME switches the graphics display to either a solid model or wireframe.

TOLERANCE a user-provided value in which to perform the calculations.

BLOCK SKIP CHARACTER is a user-defined character to tell the computer to skip this line of data or not.

TEACH FILE NAME is a file name in which to store all of the locations used.

SOLID STOCK Begin Z @ specifies the Z axis beginning of the solid model. Typically 0.

SOLID STOCK Extra Stock adds extra material or stock around the edges or diameter.

FANUC ARC CENTER to be calculated from Absolute, incremental or radii given arc centers.

[0015]   The following paragraph is a description of the internal command set and math used internally to calculate the Multi-axes Tool Compensation algorithm. These internal commands are listed below and shown by example:

TOOLCOMP OFF	'Turns all compensation off.
TOOLCOMP LEFT	'Comps tool in 2D to the left.
TOOLCOMP RIGHT	'Comps tool in 2D to the right.
TOOLCOMP 3DCOMP	'3D comp based on vector and gouge parameter.
TOOLCOMP 3DADJUSTZ	'3D comp lifts Z axis only but keeps X,Y.
TOOLCOMP 3DOFFSET	'3D parallel offset only - based on vector and no gouge 'parameter.
TOOLCOMP 5AXIS	'5-axis comp based on vector and gouge parameter.
TOOLCOMP LLIMIT45	'Give angle which will specify a gouge to omit tool 'position.

[0016]   The TOOLCOMP command enables 3D and 5-axis tool compensation and has eight possible parameters: OFF, LEFT, RIGHT, 3DCOMP, 3DADJUSTZ, 3DOFFSET, 5AXIS and LLIMIT45. The compensation value is taken from the tool parameter screen for that specific tool number.

[0017]   The tool compensation is processed by the internal Multi-axes Tool Compensation algorithm when a file containing all of the locations are listed that correspond to a tool path along the original non-compensated part to cut. The positions of the original non-compensated tool path are loaded into memory.

[0018]   If the tool size, height, wear, horizontal, vertical, corner radius, bottom angle, side angle, length or type is changed in the boxes depicted in FIG 1. labeled by the same names or the user edits the positions in the file or A.K.A. the G code program to reflect a change in tool comp methods, then the program will automatically reprocess new re-calculated compensated tool position.

[0019]   A database is kept in the machine's memory of these positions plus ever changing conditions that it remembers by learning from what the machine can and cannot do. We regard this as an artificial intelligence algorithm element, which dynamically changes in real time.

[0020]   If 3D or 5-axis tool comp is used, the file will need to include special codes on each line that will need to be compensated. The special codes are entered using the letters U,V,W or alternately A,B,C depending on the user's choice. The values following U,V,W or A,B,C represent a normalized 3D vectorized value. Vectors are common mathematical properties representing a 3D magnitude of direction pointing in 3D space. The use, knowledge and values of vectors have been used and documented for hundreds of years and are regarded as common knowledge in the mathematical field. The vector used is derived from the direction the original tool was at off the original part surface at any given point in space.

[0021]   The values entered in by command are stored in the memory of the CNC Controller to be used in the calculations as variables.

[0022]   Shown below are the variables used and how the calculations are made in the central set of math routine algorithms.

U,V,W are the end result of the compensated tool positions.
D = the distance or combined length of FIG 2. Dim "A" Item 2, Dim "B" Item 3 and Dim "C" Item 4.
Vx,Vy,Vz are the 3D vector component values.
X,Y,Z is the original non-compensated tool position

$U = D * Vx + X$
$V = D * Vy + Y$
$W = D * Vz + Z$

[0023]   The use of the L code represents a conical angle measured from the tool tip point to the nearest obstacle from a flat 2D plane. If the user specifies an angle after LLIMIT, then the tool position move may be completely omitted by the machine if an obstacle is encountered on the part surface in order to automatically avoid gouging as part of the central set of math routine algorithms.

L!= the value given after the LLIMIT command.

$L = (D / Sin(L!))$

If $L < 0$ Then skip this move.

Else, combine this value with the D distance value to arrive at a new distance to compensate.

$D=D+L$

[0024]   This occurs if on FIG 5. Dim "E" Item 7, which shows the included angle between the vector and the L code, is less than the value specified after LLIMIT. To turn gouge protection off, specify a zero value after LLIMIT 0.

[0025]   The following mathematical algorithms are based on three values hard coded into the routine. The user does not have a box to enter these values. Each machine style and head design dynamics determine the following three values used in the compensation algorithm.

[0026]   FIG 3. Item 5 depicts the key pivot point used in the algorithm. The resultant calculation affects the end position by further tilting the U,V,W in the view depicted in FIG 3. Item 5.

[0027]   FIG 4. Dim "D" Item 6 depicts the key angular displacement used in the algorithm. The resultant calculation affects the end position by further tilting the U,V,W in the view depicted in FIG 4. Dim "D" Item 6.

[0028]   FIG 6. Dim "R" Item 8 depicts the key rotational displacement used in the algorithm. The resultant calculation affects the end position by further rotating the U,V,W in the view depicted in FIG 4. Dim "D" Item 6.

[0029]   As such this set of central math routine algorithms using variables to show the math matrix calculation is shown below:

$Cz = Cos(Rz)$: $Sz = Sin(Rz)$: $Cx = Cos(Rx)$: $Sx = Sin(Rx)$: $Cy = Cos(Ry)$: $Sy = Sin(Ry)$

'Z rotate, counter clockwise
  $X1 = U * Cz + V * Sz$: $Y1 = U * -Sz + V * Cz$: $Z1 = W$
'Y rotate, back
  $X2 = X1$: $Y2 = Y1 * Cx + Z1 * -Sx$: $Z2 = Y1 * Sx + Z1 * Cx$
'X rotate, left
  $U = X2 * Cy + Z2 * -Sy$: $V = Y2$: $W = X2 * Sy + Z2 * Cy$

[0030]   As referred to in Claims 9 and 9a, the database is an internal list for storage of events, variables, conditions and positions kept in standard computer random access memory. The format for this information is kept in multiple sequential standard matrix arrays. The data is accessed randomly as needed. The formats are double, matrix array as shown below for all collected and gathered user data, variables and positions:

Position1(X,Y,Z,4,5,6,7,8)
Position2(X,Y,Z,4,5,6,7,8)
Position3(X,Y,Z,4,5,6,7,8)
Etc... to Nth Position
Position Nth(X,Y,Z,4,5,6,7,8)

VariableData1(Var1,Var2,Var3,Var4,Var5,Var6,Var7,Var8)
VariableData2(Var1,Var2,Var3,Var4,Var5,Var6,Var7,Var8)
VariableData3(Var1,Var2,Var3,Var4,Var5,Var6,Var7,Var8)
Etc... to Nth
VariableData Nth(Var1,Var2,Var3,Var4,Var5,Var6,Var7,Var8)

UserData1(User1,User2,User3,User4,User5,User6,User7,User8)
UserData2(User1,User2,User3,User4,User5,User6,User7,User8)
UserData3(User1,User2,User3,User4,User5,User6,User7,User8)
Etc... to Nth
UserData Nth(User1,User2,User3,User4,User5,User6,User7,User8)

In the Claims:

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) <u>I claim a technology element that calculates</u> Multi-Axes Tool Compensation ~~technology handles all tool compensation~~ internal to <u>a central mathematical set of algorithms in memory of</u> the CNC controller <u>which ties all of the provided set of commands together as described in the steps and elements of which comprise:</u>

    a. <u>The user setting his or her preferences for the values or amounts to compensate into boxes on an operator screen, such as the example screen in FIG 1. for the boxes labeled tool size, horizontal offset, vertical offset, tool wear, corner radius, bottom angle, side angle and tool length. These interact with the G code program and other values optionally inputted or gathered as variables when the math calculations are performed.</u>

    b. <u>The user must repeat the steps in Claim 1.a setting and entering his or her preferences for each tool description. There is no limit to the number of tools, machine types or tool shape combinations to enter.</u>

    c. <u>An industry standard G Code program, as in FIG 9., containing tool positions based on non-compensated original part geometry data, interact with the Multi-Axes tool compensation calculations when they are applied. These are the original tool positions that the user supplies in which the calculations are applied. These interact with values provided on the tool parameter screen. For each multi-axes X,Y,Z,A,B,C value entered in the G Code program, the controller will calculate a compensated value based on the amounts entered into the tool parameter screen as in the example screen in FIG 1.</u>

    d. <u>A set of optional text entered commands are provided to interact and be directly entered onto the operator screen to override or toggle features on/off and adjust values:</u>

<u>TOOLCOMP OFF</u>   <u>'Turns all compensation off.</u>
<u>TOOLCOMP LEFT</u>   <u>'Comps tool in 2D to the left.</u>
<u>TOOLCOMP RIGHT</u>   <u>'Comps tool in 2D to the right.</u>
<u>TOOLCOMP 3DCOMP</u>   <u>'3D comp based on vector and gouge parameter.</u>
<u>TOOLCOMP 3DADJUSTZ</u> <u>'3D comp lifts Z axis only but keeps X,Y.</u>
<u>TOOLCOMP 3DOFFSET</u>   <u>'3D parallel offset only - based on vector and 'no gouge parameter.</u>
<u>TOOLCOMP 5AXIS</u>   <u>'5-axis comp based on vector and gouge parameter.</u>
<u>TOOLCOMP LLIMIT45</u>   <u>'Give angle which will specify a gouge to omit tool.</u>

e. A multi-axes tool positioner in a tool holder mounted to a machine's spindle cuts the part as shown in FIG 7 and FIG 8.

f. The process of gathering the user-entered information, preferences, values, amounts, on/off options on the operator screen as in FIG 1. or as entered by optional text commands as in Claim 1.d interact with the original tool positions as provided in the G code program, as in FIG 9, to provide the mathematical variables when processed by a set of described central mathematical routines internal to the CNC Controller as outlined in the DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION section. The various methods for gathering the information are incidental as to how the central set of math routines that perform these calculations receive them.

Claim 2 has been amended as follows:

2. (Amended) I claim a Multi-Axes Tool Compensation element according to Claim 9, which automatically calculates does tool gouge avoidance protection internal to the CNC controller's central set of math routine algorithms as shown in FIG 5 Dim "E" Item 7.

Claim 3 has been amended as follows:

3. (Amended) I claim a method pertaining to Claim 1 for Multi-Axes Tool Compensation, which automatically contains algorithms to lift the tool to safe positions or skip the move when necessary by determining if the LLIMIT parameter, as shown in FIG 5 Dim "E" Item 7, is in violation of any surrounding obstacles as determined by a user-defined variable value as enter on the operator screen in FIG 1.

       a. This claim is an alternative claim method of calculating tool gouge avoidance and tool protection as outlined in Claim 2.

Claim 4 has been amended as follows:

4. (Amended) I claim a method pertaining to Claim 1 which Multi-Axes Tool Compensation does not depend on the CNC programmer to re-define tool position coordinates when the tool characteristics change.

Claim 5 has been amended as follows:

5. (Amended) I claim a method pertaining to Claim 1 which Multi-Axes Tool Compensation allows the CNC machine operator[[s]] to override the pre-defined tool characteristics by entering or setting defined values as described by and shown in FIG 1 on the operator screen.

Claim 6 has been canceled.

Claim 7 remains in this application.

Claim 8 has been canceled.

Claim 9 has been added as new.